

**REMARKS**

----- Claims 1-5, 7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-21, 23, 25-26, 28-29, and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,650,955 (Sonderman). Claims 6 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Sonderman in view of United States Patent No. 6,292,582 (Lin). Claims 8 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Sonderman in view of United States Patent No. 6,601,411 (MacDougall). Claims 11, 14, 27, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Sonderman in view of United States Patent No. 5,661,669 (Mozmunder).

Claims 1 and 17 have been canceled. Claims 14 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 5, 7, 9, and 15 have been amended to depend from claim 14. Claims 30 and 31, as originally filed, included a typographical error, resulting in them depending from claim 27 instead of claim 17. Hence, when claim 30 was rewritten in independent form, only the features of claim 17 were included. Claims 18, 21, 23, 25, and 31 have been amended to depend from claim 30. Claim 33 was amended to include features similar to claims 17 and 30.

Claims 14 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Sonderman in view of Mozmunder. The instant application is assigned to Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. At the time of the instant invention, United States Patent No. 6,650,955 (Sonderman) was also assigned to Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. Because the instant application and the cited patent were commonly owned at the time of the invention, Applicants are entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) to disqualify Sonderman as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). As the rejection of claims 14 and 30 is thus moot, Applicants take no position regarding the patentability of these claims in view of the cited art. Applicants respectfully request the rejection of these claims be withdrawn. As claim 33 includes

features similar to claims 14 and 30, Applicant also considers its rejection moot for the same reasons.

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In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 608-833-0748 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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